

Message Text

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UNCLAS NICOSIA 2699

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, CY, ICRC, UNHCR

SUBJ: GOC THINKING ON DISASTER RELIEF CHYRSTALIZING

RE: NICOSIA 2635

AIDAC FOR FDRC

1. EMBOFF MET WITH GEORGEIACOVOU, NEWLY-APPOINTED GOC DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CARE AND REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES (SSCRR) AUG 27. THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED SSCRR WILL HAVE STAFF OF 400 CIVIL SERVANTS WITHIN MONTH, BUT HAS LESS THAN 200 NOW.

2. IACOVOU MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) THERE ARE, BY ACTUAL COUNT, 191,259 DISPLACED PERSONS, OF WHICH 163,763 ARE TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON COG HELP. (THIS DEPENDENT FIGURE INCLUDES 60,000 BEING CARED FOR BY BRITISH ON THE SBA'S.) REFUGEES ARE BEING REGISTERED, COMPLETING COMPREHENSIVE FORMS, WITH DATA BEING TRANSFERRED TO PUNCH CARDS BY GOC STATISTICS DEPT.

B) FOOD SITUATION, GREATLY IMPROVED IN SHORT TIME SINCE REFTTEL (CONFIRMED BY ICRC), NOW IS CONSIDERED BARELY ADEQUATE BUT CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT DAILY. DIETICIAN ON STAFF PLANNING RATIONS AT ESTIMATED COST OF 450KQSL (\$1.22) PER PERSON DAILY.

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C) CAMPS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED AT COST OF CPOUNDS 70 (ABOUT \$190)

PER PERSON, NOT INCLUDING VALUE OF TENTS. CAMPS ARE TEMPORARY (ALL TENTS) AND SEMI-PERMANENT (CEMENT BLOCK CENTRAL FACILITIES AND TENT HOUSING).

D) REFUGEES WILL REPEPEAT WILL BE DISPERESED, WITH THE 89,000 REFUGEES NOW IN THE LARNACA AREA TO BE REDUCED TO 20,000 IN EIGHT CAMPS. NEW CAMPS WILL BE OPENED NORTHEAST AND NORTHWEST OF LIMASSOL.

E) MEDIUM-TERM PLANNING UNDER CONSIDERATION INCLUDES REQUISITION OR ACQUISITION OF VACANT HOTELS AND APARTMENT BUILDINGS, COMPLETION OF NEAR-FINISHED APARTMENT BUILDINGS FOR REFUGEE USE ESTABLISHMENT OF SELP-SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL CAMPS (POULTRY, RABBITS), GRANTS, AND ESTABLISH SMALL MERCHANTS

AND ARTISANS IN NEW AREAS. REFUGEE LABOR WILL BE USED IN THESE PROJECTS.

3. COMMENT: IACOVOU, NORMALLY DIRECTOR OF ILO-SUPPORTED CYPRUS PRODUCTIVITY CENTEYN IS ABLE BRIBISH-TRAINED ECONOMIST AND MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST. WE ARE GREATLY HEARTENED BY SPEED WITH WHICH HE AND OTHERS IN GOC ARE COMING TO GRIPS WITH RELIEF TASK CONFRONTING THEM. WE ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED BY GOC'S ACCEPTANCE OF US SUGGESTIONS, SOME OF WHICH REPRESENTED MAJOR GOC CHANGES OF DIRECTION. BROWN

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